

Figure 1 shows a block diagram for the implementation of one embodiment of the method according to the invention;

Figure 2 shows a diagrammatic illustration of a time frame according to the invention; and

Figure 3 shows a simplified block diagram of the exemplary embodiment of Figure 1.

*Kindly replace the paragraph beginning on Page 7, at Line 4, with the following:*

In the exemplary embodiment shown in Figure 1, the transmission and reception sections 50, 51 both of a central data station C (CENTRAL) and of a peripheral data station R (REMOTE) are illustrated in a single block diagram, which should be understood such that the central data station C is connected to the data station R via the transformer 13, the two-wire line 100 and a further transformer 13 (the block diagram of Figure 3 illustrates this same configuration in simplified form). Those functional units are associated only with the data station C or R are identified by "ATU-C only" or "ATU-R".

*Kindly replace the paragraph beginning on Page 9, at Line 22, with the following:*

As shown in Figures 1 and 3, the transmission section 50 and the reception section 51 are controlled by a TDM (Time Division Multiplex) unit 30, with the result that, according to the invention, the data to be transmitted and the data to be received are separated by time division multiplex operation, the associated multiplex time frame being subdivided into a predetermined number N of time slots, and of these a number K of time